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August 12, 1968

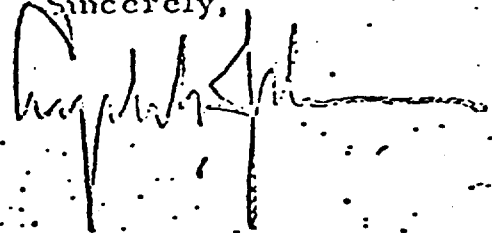
FROM LLENL
MLC Records
File = Bikini
Agreements
and Actions

Dear Mr. Secretary:

The Secretary of the Interior has reported to me that a special analysis of radiological levels of Bikini Atoll has resulted in the conclusion that the major islands of the atoll are now safe for human habitation. The Defense Department has also concluded that security requirements are such that the return of the former Bikini people to their traditional home can be accommodated.

The return of these people cannot, however, be accomplished overnight. There remains the major task of working with the Bikini leadership in planning the return, of removing any remaining sources of radiological contamination, of clearing the land and of replanting it to crops which will sustain human life and which will provide a source of income. New homes and new community facilities must be built with the active participation of the returning people. These tasks require resources beyond the means of the former Bikini people and of the Trust Territory Government. I, therefore, request you to work with the Secretary of the Interior and the High Commissioner of the Trust Territory in planning a comprehensive resettlement program and to assist them in carrying it out with all possible dispatch.

Sincerely,



Honorable Clark M. Clifford
Secretary of Defense
Washington, D. C. 20301

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THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

MAY 23 1975

Honorable Kent Frizzell
Acting Secretary of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Mr. Secretary:

This is in response to Secretary Morton's letter of March 7, 1975, requesting logistic support for the conduct of an additional radiological survey of Bikini Atoll and other islands that received fallout from U.S. nuclear weapons testing.

The assets required to support the survey had been tentatively identified, at a reimbursable cost of \$609,000. Members of your staff have advised, however, that the Department of Interior has no funds for reimbursement, therefore, we are unable to provide the requested support at this time.

We may be able to consider providing similar support at such time as you have funds available. However, since operational schedules are established well in advance, it is suggested that your requirements be made known sufficiently ahead of the desired implementation time in order to allow orderly planning and scheduling.

Sincerely,

H. P. Clement
Deputy

*From MLC Records
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